



CALTRANS COMMUTER ALERT

Date: Friday, August 26, 2011
District: 6 - Fresno
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

STATE ROUTE 198/BEN MADDOX RAMP AND LANE CLOSURES SCHEDULED FOR NEXT WEEK IN THE VISALIA AREA

The Department of Transportation (Caltrans) announces a scheduled temporary closure of the #2 lane (right/slow lane) of State Route 198 near Ben Maddox and the Ben Maddox on and off ramps within the Visalia city limits. These closures will be necessary to allow construction crews to perform striping operations as part of an ongoing pavement rehabilitation project.

The following closures will be in effect next week (weather permitting):

Eastbound and Westbound State Route 198 will be reduced to 1-lane at Ben Maddox in the City of Visalia on Thursday, September 1st between the hours of 6:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. and on Friday, September 2nd, 2011 between the hours of 6:00 a.m. and 12:00 p.m.. This closure will include the on and off ramps in each direction.

These scheduled closures are necessary during daytime hours as high pavement temperatures are needed to allow striping material to cure correctly. Closures may continue for longer periods of time each day if necessary, due to delays caused by weather or uncontrollable events that may occur during maintenance. Commuters are encouraged to take alternate routes whenever possible.

Caltrans and CHP want to remind the public about the "Move Over" law signed by the governor in January of 2010, that requires motorists to slow down and, if safe, move over to a lane not immediately adjacent to a stationary CHP, Emergency or Caltrans vehicle displaying flashing warning lights. To date, 45 other states have enacted similar laws requiring motorists to move over or slow down. Violation of this law is punishable by a fine and citation. So remember...

Move Over, It's the Law!!

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